

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 30 are in the application. Claims 1, 11 and 21 are independent.
Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 11 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over U.S. Patent No. 5,786,822 (Sakaibara); claims 2, 3, 12, 13, 22 and 23 were rejected under §103 over Sakaibara in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,847,712 (Salesin); claims 4, 14 and 24 were rejected under §103 over Sakaibara in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,478,680 (Yoshioka); and claims 5 to 10, 15 to 20, and 25 to 30 were rejected under §103 over Sakaibara in view of Yoshioka and U.S. Patent No. 5,757,321 (Billyard). As shown above, Applicants have amended the claims to define the invention with even greater clarity. In view of these amendments, withdrawal of the §103 rejections is respectfully requested.

Each of the independent claims, namely claims 1, 11 and 21, has been amended to specify that determining the pencil sketch texture comprises obtaining texture values for vertices of the polygon and, in a case where all vertices do not have the same texture value, assigning the pencil-sketch texture to the polygon based on a texture value of a majority of the vertices of the polygon. The applied art is not understood to disclose or to suggest these features of the claims.

More specifically, Sakaibara describes selecting texture data for a polygon from a memory, which corresponds to textures viewed from different directions (see, e.g., column 7 of Sakaibara). The texture data is retrieved and used with the polygon. Nowhere, however, does Sakaibara disclose or suggest assigning the pencil-sketch texture to the

polygon based on a texture value of a majority of the vertices of the polygon in a case where all vertices do not have the same texture value.

On page 5 of the Office Action, Billyard was said to disclose classifying a polygon based on a specular highlight of the polygon. However, in Billyard, the specular highlight is determined based on a normal to the polygon, where the normal is a

vector extending from the centre of the polygon in a direction perpendicular, i.e. normal to the plane of the polygon, away from its front face, and extending a length equal to unity within the coordinate reference frame.
(col.. 4, lines 39 to 45 of Billyard)

Since Billyard does not provide specular values for individual vertices, Billyard could not possibly disclose or suggest the claims feature of assigning the pencil-sketch texture to the polygon based on a texture value of a majority of the vertices of the polygon in a case where all vertices do not have the same texture value.

On pages 6 and 7 of the Office Action, it was said that Yoshioka describes a texture mapping process in which texture address data designates texture data to be mapped to an object. This description is accurate; however, Yoshioka does not describe how texture data for a whole polygon is obtained. Accordingly, Yoshioka also does not disclose or suggest the claims feature of assigning the pencil-sketch texture to the polygon based on a texture value of a majority of the vertices of the polygon in a case where all vertices do not have the same texture value.

The remaining applied art is likewise not understood to disclose or to suggest at least assigning the pencil-sketch texture to the polygon based on a texture value of a

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Serial No. : 09/708,230
Filed : November 7, 2000
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Attorney Docket No.: 10559-296001
Intel Docket No.: P9307

majority of the vertices of the polygon in a case where all vertices do not have the same texture value. Accordingly, claims 1, 11 and 21, and the claims that depend therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

The signing attorney can be reached at the address shown above. Telephone calls regarding this application should be directed to the signing attorney at 617-521-7896.